

Issue NE-CW3602, released September 9, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending September 8, 2002, temperatures well above normal pushed the start of row crops harvest with fields being combined in the southern half of Nebraska, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Subsoil moisture supplies still showed 91 percent short and very short across the State as wheat producers continued with their fall planting. Grasshoppers continued to present problems in some areas. Producer activities included preparations for fall harvest and livestock care.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Access weekly reports back to 1947 and current county specific comments at: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr.htm>

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged from seven to twelve degrees above normals across the state. Precipitation was scattered and light with amounts ranging from traces to 0.73 inches.

**Field Crops Report:** All corn condition rated 33 percent good and excellent, well below the average of 63. Irrigated corn condition rated 53 percent good and excellent, below the five-year average of 75. Dryland corn rated 5 percent good and excellent, far below the average of 48. The crop was 89 percent dented, same as last year and ahead of 85 average. Thirty-two percent was mature, ahead of last year at 24 and average at 21. Harvest for grain or seed was underway in several districts with 5 percent combined to date, ahead of 2 last year and average.

Soybean condition declined and rated 26 percent very poor, 26 poor, 28 fair, 18 good, and 2 excellent, well below last year and average. Sixty-one percent of the acreage had turned color, ahead of last year at 46 and average at 48. Leaves were dropping

on 19 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 11 and average at 14. Harvest had started in a few southeastern counties.

Sorghum condition rated 40 percent very poor, 32 poor, 23 fair, and 5 good, well below last year and average. Fields were turning color on 68 percent of the acreage, behind last year at 81 and average at 73. Twelve percent was mature, ahead of last year at 6 and near average at 13. Harvest had started in a few southeastern counties.

Dry beans were dropping leaves on 31 percent of the acreage, about a week behind last year at 56 and average at 54. Harvest was underway with 11 percent combined to date, behind last year at 21 and average at 17. Condition rated 18 percent very poor, 27 poor, 29 fair, 22 good, and 4 excellent.

Proso millet harvest was 21 percent combined to date, behind 34 percent last year.

Wheat seeding progressed well in western counties with 11 percent sown statewide, near last year at 10 and average at 11 percent.

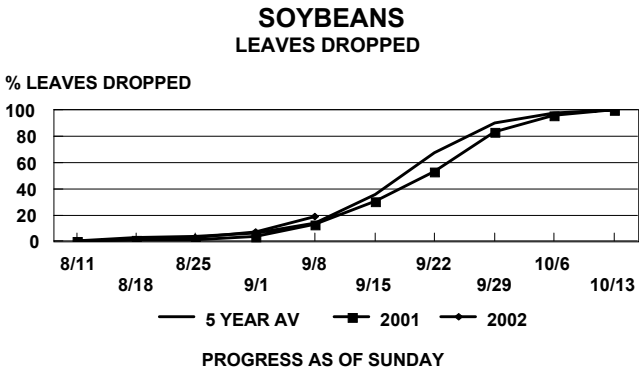
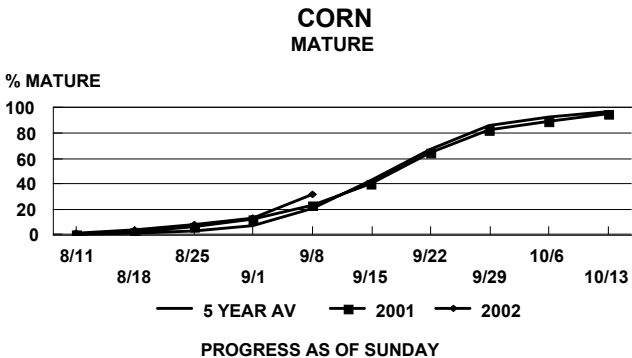
Alfalfa condition rated 35 percent very poor, 24 poor, 21 fair, 18 good, and 2 excellent, well below last year and average. Third cutting progress neared completion with 92 percent harvested, behind last year at 96 and average at 93. Where growth permitted a fourth cutting, those activities were 23 percent complete, ahead of last year at 18 and average at 14.

**Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 58 percent very poor, 28 poor, 10 fair, and 4 good, well below average. Numerous producers continued to provide supplemental feed, wean calves earlier than normal, and await stock fields to become available.

Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of September 8, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dent	40	90	92	95	94	67	97	99	89	77	89	85
% Corn Mature	5	1	23	35	31	17	48	53	32	13	24	21
% Corn Harvested	0	0	0	5	4	0	7	8	5	0	2	2
% Soybeans Turning Color	<sup>1</sup>	56	60	69	59	53	58	66	61	31	46	48
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	<sup>1</sup>	15	15	22	15	22	20	25	19	7	11	14
% Sorghum Turning Color	20	59	67	38	75	68	74	76	68	58	81	73
% Sorghum Mature	0	0	0	0	14	13	20	13	12	3	6	13
% Wheat Seeded	17	12	0	9	3	6	5	1	11	2	10	11
% Alfalfa 4th Cutting	0	2	37	13	22	30	51	12	23	9	18	14
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	6.7	6.6	6.4	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.8	5.2	5.5	6.1
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	58	36	11	62	30	60	76	79	48	40	13	22
- % Short	23	41	52	38	42	24	14	20	33	31	35	33
- % Adequate	19	23	37	0	26	15	10	1	19	27	50	44
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	2	2	1
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	74	51	40	64	56	81	90	77	64	63	16	23
- % Short	20	33	43	36	29	15	10	23	27	27	41	31
- % Adequate	6	16	17	0	14	4	0	0	9	10	41	45
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1

<sup>1</sup> Data not available.



[illegible]

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.09	.07	.00	.17	.05	.05	.06	.05
Total since April 1	7.04	10.62	15.42	9.87	16.75	7.56	9.59	14.84
Normal since April 1	12.11	15.27	17.41	16.56	18.67	14.44	16.54	19.47
Total as % of normal	58%	69%	88%	59%	89%	52%	57%	76%

## Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, September 8, 2002

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	96	51	72	9	143	2343	2299
	Scottsbluff	98	50	72	9	139	2455	2294
	Sidney	95	53	73	9	150	2494	2353
NC	Ainsworth	96	52	77	12	167	2742	2527
	Arthur	91	50	73	8	153	2506	2480
	O'Neill	96	49	77	11	170	2752	2632
NE	Concord	94	49	74	8	158	2725	2682
	Elgin	94	53	76	9	166	2772	2690
	West Point	95	46	74	6	157	2794	2836
C	Grand Island	96	50	76	9	164	2854	2724
	Lexington	94	51	75	8	160	2894	2680
	Ord	94	48	76	9	170	2806	2704
EC	Lincoln	94	54	80	10	188	3152	2984
	Central City	95	50	77	10	168	2882	2764
	Mead	93	49	76	7	165	2941	2938
SW	Champion	95	47	74	8	149	2637	2535
	North Platte	96	45	76	10	160	2751	2559
	Curtis	97	48	78	11	168	2848	2598
SC	Arapahoe	96	48	74	8	149	2528	2472
	Minden	94	51	75	8	159	2847	2689
	Red Cloud	98	53	79	11	175	3116	2756
SE	Beatrice	95	52	77	8	171	3033	2985
	Clay Center	94	49	74	7	156	2840	2749
	Nemaha	101	58	82	12	189	3197	2996

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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